

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/682,230

Examiner

Ting Zhou

Applicant(s)

ROSENHOLTZ ET AL.

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 18 July 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 12-19, 26 and 27.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 18 July 2005 have been received and entered. Claims 1-8, 12-19 and 26-27 as amended are pending in the application.
2. Claims 1-2, 12-13 and 26 were previously indicated as allowable subject matter in the office action dated 29 April 2005.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kentaro Higuchi on 26 September 2005 and 29 September 2005.

4. The application has been amended as follows:
5. Page 5, paragraph [0016], replace "plain" with -- conventional --.
6. Page 5, paragraph [0022], replace "plain" with -- conventional --.
7. Page 5, paragraph [0025], replace "an" with -- a conventional --.
8. Page 6, paragraph [0030], replace "an" with -- a conventional --.
9. Page 21, paragraph [80], line 1, insert -- conventional -- between "the" and "document".

Art Unit: 2173

10. Page 25, line 2, replace "an" with -- a conventional --.

11. Page 28, paragraph [0110], line 2, insert -- conventional -- between "the" and "document".

12. Claim 4 is amended to read:

Claim 4. A method of displaying a document, comprising:

displaying a thumbnail associated with an original document and having at least one first selectable element, each at least one first selectable element having, as an associated destination, one of (a) another portion of the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document and (b) a document other than the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document, the another portion corresponding to a position different from the second selectable element;

receiving a selection of one of the at least one first selectable element; and

directly accessing the associated destination based on the selection without first accessing the original document,

wherein the thumbnail is a reduced-size representation of at least a part of the original document.

13. Claim 15 is amended to read:

Claim 15. A system for displaying a document, comprising:

a display device; and

a controller that:

Art Unit: 2173

displays a thumbnail associated with an original document and having at least one first selectable element, each at least one first selectable element having, as an associated destination, one of (a) another portion of the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document and (b) a document other than the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document, the another portion corresponding to a position different from the second selectable element;

receives a selection of one of the at least one first selectable element; and

directly accesses the associated destination based on the selection without first accessing the original document,

wherein the thumbnail is a reduced-size representation of at least a part of the original document.

14. Claim 27 is amended to read:

Claim 27. An information storage medium on which recorded a program, the program comprising:

an instruction for displaying a thumbnail associated with an original document and having at least one first selectable element, each at least one first selectable element having, as an associated destination, one of (a) another portion of the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document and (b) a document other than the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the

Art Unit: 2173

original document, the another portion corresponding to a position different from the second selectable element;

an instruction for receiving a selection of one of the at least one first selectable element;
and

an instruction for directly accessing the associated destination based on the selection without first accessing the original document,

wherein the thumbnail is a reduced-size representation of at least a part of the original document.

Allowable Subject Matter

15. Claims 1-8, 12-19 and 26-27 are allowed.

16. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention teaches a method of displaying a document via selection of a portion of a thumbnail.

Claims 1-2, 12-13 and 26 were previously indicated as allowable subject matter in the office action dated 29 April 2005. Claims 3 and 14, dependent upon allowable claims 1 and 12, has overcome the 112 rejection made in the previous office action dated 29 April 2005 and is now allowable.

Each of independent claims 4, 15 and 27, as amended, identifies the distinct feature of displaying a thumbnail having at least one first selectable element, each at least one first selectable element having, as an associated destination, one of (a) another portion of the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original

Art Unit: 2173

document and (b) a document other than the original document accessible by selection of a second selectable element provided in the original document, the another portion corresponding to a position different from the second selectable element. The closest prior art, Hahn et al. U.S. Patent 5,751,287 teach a thumbnail with a selectable element that has an associated destination of a portion of the original document. The prior art fails to teach displaying another portion of the original document, which corresponds to a position different from the second selectable element, that is accessible by selection of the second selectable element provided in the original document or a document other than the original document, i.e. another portion of the original document or another document can be accessed via a first selectable element of a thumbnail and via a selectable element such as a hyperlink present in the original document associated with the thumbnail; in other words, the prior art fails to teach that selectable elements may correspond to selectable elements that were present in the original element, such as hyperlinks to documents or hyperlinks to other portions of the same document; the prior art also fails to teach that a direct positional correlation between the selectable elements and the corresponding areas of the document is not required. Thus, the prior art fails to anticipate or render the above limitations obvious.

17. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

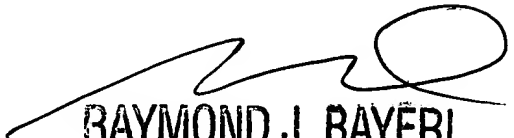
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ting Zhou whose telephone number is (571) 272-4058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached at (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TZ



RAYMOND J. BAYERL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2173